

Page 12, line 3, after "obtained" please insert -- , --;
line 11, delete "was" and insert -- were --;
line 14, delete "Introducing" and insert
"Introduction of"; and
line 14, delete "in" and insert -- into --.

Page 13, line 25, after "disease" please insert -- , --; and
line 26, delete "seen" and insert -- in view of --.

Page 14, line 1, delete "are" and insert -- is --;
line 21, after "added" and "later", please insert --
, --; and
line 27, after "infection" please insert -- , --.

Page 15, line 4, delete "previuosly" and insert -- previously
--; and
line 5, after "EHV24" please insert -- , --.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 - 15 without prejudice or disclaimer of
the subject matter thereof.

Please add the following new claims 16 - 43:

-- 16. An equine herpesvirus (EHV) mutant, comprising one or
more deletions, substitutions or insertions introduced into the
endogenous promoter region of an essential viral gene. --

-- 17. The EHV mutant of claim 16, wherein one or more deletions
are introduced into the promoter region. --

-- 18. The EHV mutant of claim 16, wherein the gene is the
Immediate Early gene. --

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-- 19. The EHV mutant of claim 16, wherein the mutant virus is the EHV-1 virus or the EHV-4 virus. --

-- 20. The EHV mutant of claim 16, further comprising one or more mutations in one or more other genes and/or their promoters. --

-- 21. The EHV mutant of claim 16, comprising a deletion of the SacI-SacI fragment, the HindIII-ClaI fragment, the NdeI-NdeI fragment or the SphI-SphI fragment of the promoter region of the Immediate Early gene. --

-- 22. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the endogenous promoter region of the Immediate Early gene from EHV and optionally one or more flanking sequences, which promoter region comprises a deletion of the SacI-SacI fragment, the HindIII-ClaI fragment, the NdeI-NdeI fragment or the SphI-SphI fragment, thereof. --

-- 23. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 22, wherein the EHV is EHV-1 or EHV-4. --

-- 24. A recombinant DNA molecule comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 22. --

-- 25. A host cell comprising the DNA molecule of claim 24. --

-- 26. A vaccine comprising the EHV mutant of claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. --

-- 27. A vaccine comprising the EHV mutant of claim 17 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. --

-- 28. A method for the preparation of an EHV mutant comprising

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one or more deletions, substitutions or insertions in the endogenous promoter region of an essential viral gene, comprising the step of transfecting a cell culture with the DNA molecule of claim 24 and EHV genomic DNA. --

-- 29. A method of genetically attenuating EHV, comprising the step of mutating the endogenous promoter region of an essential gene, which mutation comprises one or more deletions, substitutions or insertions. --

-- 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the EHV is EHV-1 and EHV-4. --

-- 31. The method of claim 29, wherein the gene is an Immediate Early gene. --

-- 32. An attenuated equine herpesvirus (EHV) mutant, comprising one or more deletions, substitutions or insertions introduced into the endogenous promoter region of an essential viral gene. --

-- 33. The EHV mutant of claim 32, wherein one or more deletions are introduced into the promoter region. --

-- 34. The EHV mutant of claim 32, wherein the gene is the Immediate Early gene. --

-- 35. The EHV mutant of claim 32, wherein the mutant virus is the EHV-1 virus or the EHV-4 virus. --

-- 36. The EHV mutant of claim 32, further comprising one or more mutations in one or more other genes and/or their promoters. --

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